

PUTTING VETERANS FIRST



Impact Report 2023

OUR MESSAGE TO YOU

Dear Friends,

Florida, home to 1.5 million veterans, has the third-highest veteran population in the country. What these champions for America experienced in active duty often causes mental and physical trauma. What's more, they encounter unexpected and potentially life-threatening challenges as they enter civilian life. Many face dire straits because not only are they wounded and disabled, but also they have difficulty finding meaningful employment, they don't have a place to live and they simply can't make it on their own without our help.

That's where WVRF comes in. Founded in 2009, WVRF is a grassroots 501(c)3 nonprofit organization led by veterans, serving veterans. Our mission is to provide urgent financial assistance and critical dental care to Florida's eligible wounded and disabled veterans. Since our inception, our funding, outreach and direct assistance have grown steadily. But the urgent need for help is growing too!

In this Impact Report, you will learn what we do, why we do it and how you can help. Ultimately, we are giving life-changing assistance to people who have nowhere else to turn... people who have risked everything to protect our freedom. That's why we are here. That's why we need you. Together, we break down barriers and set our veterans and their families up for success.

Our Mission: To provide urgent financial assistance and critical dental care to Florida's eligible wounded and disabled veterans

YOUR HELP MEANS WE HELP!



WWW.WVRF.ORG



"The future of WVRF looks extraordinary because of you..."

Mike Durkee

Mike Durkee
WVRF Executive Director

THE NEED – The Facts are Staggering.

**All numbers are estimated from VA, FDVA and Census Reports*

Suicide rates among veterans are **1.5x** the rate of the civilian population

Post-Traumatic Stress is the **#1 risk factor** for suicide

Only about half of Florida veterans, nearly **780,000**, are enrolled in Florida's VA

Veterans suffer higher rates of **homelessness and financial instability** than civilians

150,000 of Florida veterans need critical dental care

460,000 of Florida veterans are wounded or disabled

85% of disabled veterans are not eligible for VA dental care

HELP IS HERE – We're Putting Veterans Back on Their Feet.

WVRF provides qualified veterans and their families a helping hand, often when no one else can. We respond in 24-72 hours. We provide many essential support services because of our partnership with organizations like the VA, County Veteran Service Officers, CareerSource and local businesses. Our statistics show that **82% of veterans we assist do not seek additional funding and are self-sufficient moving forward.** Why is our success rate so high? Our collaboration with other non-profits means together we can provide all the services Veterans need to succeed.

Urgent Financial Assistance Program (UFA)

Our Urgent Financial Assistance Program was established in order to fill the financial gaps when our veterans are faced with various crisis situations including loss of employment, unplanned medical bills, fire and natural disasters. We assist with the following:



Housing - move-in costs, eviction avoidance, late mortgage



Vehicle - past due vehicle loan or insurance payments



Basic Utilities - electric, water, gas, sewage



Temporary Childcare - for transitioning veterans who are starting new employment or vocational school

URGENT FINANCIAL
—ASSISTANCE PROGRAM—



“I served 13 years in the Marine Corps and was medically retired due to combat injuries. I fell behind on my bills due to loss of primary income and was struggling to support my 3 boys and keep our house that we call home. Wounded Veterans Relief Fund saved me and I was able to catch up on my bills and they also assisted me in a financial plan to stay afloat until I find another source of income.”

Chris M.
Marine Corps Veteran

HELP IS HERE – We're Doing what No One Else is Doing.

Critical Dental Assistance Program (CDAP)

Our unique dental program provides critical dental care to veterans who do not qualify for VA dental coverage or cannot afford dental insurance or the costly co-pays. Our program was created because an overwhelming number of our **veterans (85%) do not qualify for VA dental care**. This means the majority of our disabled veterans are at high risk for significant health problems, some potentially life-threatening.

Dental care is so crucial because it:

- Treats infections and eliminates pain
- Increases overall health and wellbeing
- Increases employment opportunities
- Boosts self-confidence and restores hope

The program started with two dental partners in 2020, 48 partners in 2021, and over 64 dental partners in 2022. Today, we have 150 dental partners. We continue to seek out new dental partners in Florida in order to reach our underserved veterans in our state. We helped 129 veterans in 2023 and are on track to service 250+ in 2024.



Wounded Veterans Relief Fund's dental program provides 100% FREE critical dental care to our qualified disabled veterans who do not qualify for VA dental coverage



We assist with life-saving critical dental needs



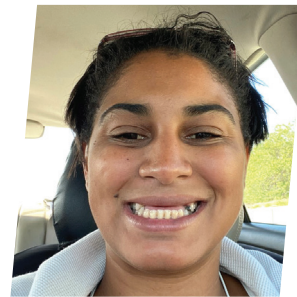
WVRF can assist with dental needs such as extractions, implants, dentures, and periodontal disease treatments, and more



WVRF HAS PROVIDED 129 VETERANS WITH THE GIFT OF A SMILE

**FREEDOM
ISN'T
FREE.**

**WVRF
THANKS
OUR VETS
FOR
THEIR
SERVICE.**



Thank you to our Partners!



YOUR IMPACT – The Numbers are Great. The Need is Higher.

We are a high-impact organization because on average, 84% or more of what is contributed to WVRF goes directly to veterans and their families in Florida. We are not government-funded which means we have more flexibility in the ways we help and can respond rapidly within 24-72 hours.

2023 Urgent Financial Assistance in Florida

URGENT FINANCIAL —ASSISTANCE PROGRAM—

\$695,552.10 +7.3%
Year total *YOY

959 +23.26%
Veterans and family members served *YOY

2023 Dental Assistance in Florida

CRITICAL DENTAL —ASSISTANCE PROGRAM— Providing Critical Support to Disabled Florida Veterans

\$738,069.03 +57.35%
Year total *YOY

129 +84.29%
Veterans served *YOY

*YOY = Year Over Year/Growth % from 2022 to 2023

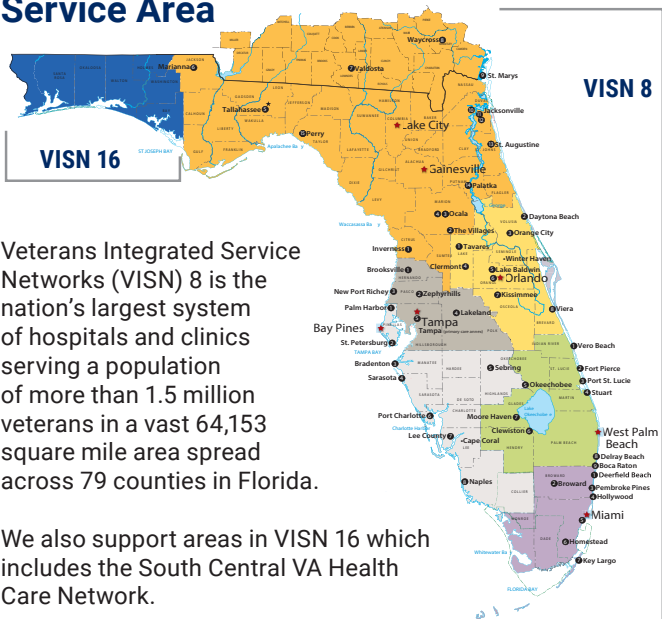
Since the inception of the Critical Dental Assistance Program (CDAP) in 2021, we have delivered **\$1.8 million+** in direct dental assistance to Florida's wounded and disabled veterans.



84% of donations go directly to supporting Florida disabled veterans and their families.

In 2023 we delivered **\$1,433,621.13** in direct program assistance to Florida disabled veterans. A total of **1,088** veterans & family members were supported.

Service Area



HELP US SERVE THE GREATER NEED

WWW.WVRF.ORG

WANT TO HELP? – Let's Go!

Ways to Contribute:

Since we are 100% donor funded, we need your support! We strive to have the resources available to help all the 1.5 million veterans in the state of Florida. Here are a few ways you can contribute to this critical cause.

- Host/sponsor a fundraising event
- Cash donation: one time or recurring
- Donate auction items for our events
- Nominate us as designated charity for your existing event
- Facebook birthday fundraiser
- Family foundation grant
- Donor advised fund
- Planned legacy giving
- Employer matching
- Stock donations
- Attend events

**WE ARE FUNDED BY
YOU, THE PEOPLE. THAT
MEANS WE CAN'T HELP
WITHOUT YOUR HELP.**



WWW.WVRF.ORG



More Ways to Serve:

You can also provide us with hands-on help by donating your time. In addition, connecting us with people you think we should know can also help expand our network and mission.

You can:

- Make an introduction to someone you think we should know
- Apply to be a State Ambassador
- Volunteer at events
- Be our photographer/videographer

BECOME AN AMBASSADOR

"The Wounded Veterans Relief Fund extends a heartfelt thank you to all our past, current, and future ambassadors. Your unwavering love and support make a profound difference in the lives of our great veterans, ensuring they receive the care and assistance they deserve."

Having Ambassadors in different locations across Florida for the Wounded Veterans Relief Fund is crucial for:

Fundraising | Outreach | Awareness | Support

Our Ambassadors help to establish a strong presence, extend our reach and tailor support to the specific needs of veterans in various communities. Their involvement enhances community engagement, advocacy, and fundraising, ultimately leading to a greater impact on the lives of disabled veterans in Florida.

To become an Ambassador or for more information please contact us at EMoore@wvrf.org



SIGNATURE EVENTS – Join the fun. See the impact.

We host various fundraising events throughout the year as well as being nominated as a benefactor by other organization. These events are crucial to our mission, but you'll also find them to be fun and meaningful. Here are some highlights from 2023:

Running for Heroes | April 22, 2023 - Jupiter, FL



Bonito Blast | July 28 & 29, 2023 - Stuart, FL



A Night of Honor Gala | November 4, 2023 - Palm Beach Gardens, FL



WVRF'S LEADERSHIP – We Team Up with You!

Board of Directors

Robert D. Chelberg, *LTGEN, USA (Ret.)*
President
 Russell J. Cancilla, *USA (Ret.)*
Vice President
 Mike Durkee, *USA*
Executive Director
 Ellen Anandel
Secretary
 John Tassone
Treasurer
 Jim Brown, *USN*
Sergeant at Arms

Board Members

Rand Allen, *USA*
 Gene Andrews, *LTC, USA (Ret.)*
 Lauren Berkson
 Brittany Cartwright
 Julia Dattolo, *CDR, USNR (Ret.)*
 Andre Debose, *COL, USA, (Ret)*
 Jim Edwards, *USN*
 Patrick J. Miller, *USMC*
 William Shepard, *LTC, USA*
 Peter Stark, *USA*
 Harry "Skip" Taylor, *LTC, USA (Ret.)*

Members Emeritus

Jim Champion, *USA*
 Wayne Crowder, *LTC USMC (Ret.)*
Vice President
 Sharon Baker
 Richard "Buzz" Bryan, *USN (Ret.)*
 Ed Latalladi
 Ray Galkowski
 Don Miltz, *USN*
 Stu Senneff, *USA*
 Richard I. Wennet, *CPT USNR (Ret.)*

Advisory Board

Robert D. Chelberg, *LTGEN, USA (Ret.)*
President
 Shanon Cake
Newscaster WPTV
 Robert Crippen
Former Astronaut
 Michael DeBock
Vice President, Energy,
Marketing and Trading, FPL
 Jay Denney, *Navy Admiral (Ret.)*
 John Doble
Owner, Tampa Bay Brewing Company

Brian Edwards, *CWO3, USMC (Ret.)*
SVP United Way PB County
 Jerry Johnson, *ADM, USN (Ret.)*
 David McClymont
CEO of Palm Beach Symphony
 Kimberly Reckley
SVP, Client and Community Relations
Director, PNC Bank
 Steve Stock
President & CEO of Guy Harvey Inc.,
President of the Guy Harvey Foundation

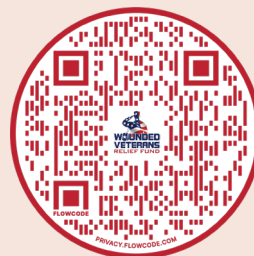
Dental Advisory Board

Dr. Coral Cohen
Dentist, Jupiter Mobile Dentist, Jupiter
 Dr. Maureen L. O'Flanagan
Dentist, Maureen L. O'Flanagan, DDS, Deerfield Beach
 Dr. Zack Kalarickal
Dentist, Wesley Chapel Dentistry, Tampa
 Frederic "Fred" Norkin
Periodontist, South Florida Center for Periodontics & Implant Dentistry, Boca Raton
 Dr. QueAnh Phan
Dentist, Fantastic Dental Arts, Naples, PB Gardens
 Dr. Randall Rodriguez Torres
Dentist, Port St Lucie/USA Dental
 Dr. Harvey Solomon
Retired Dentist
 Dr. Thomas Roberts
Dentist/Implant Dentistry of South Florida, WPB

THANK YOU CORPORATE SPONSORS



**YOUR HELP
MEANS WE HELP!**



WWW.WVRF.ORG



CONNECT WITH US

300 Prosperity Farms Road, Suite F
North Palm Beach, FL 33408

(561) 855-4207
Info@wvrf.org
www.wvrf.org



/WoundedVeteransReliefFund

/WoundedVeteransReliefFund

@WVReliefFund

@WVReliefFund

We are a 501(c)(3) tax exempt, non profit charitable foundation.